

# Whalesong

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## Students predict spring semester activities at UAS

By Kim Porter  
Whalesong Contributor

Brandon Larson and I would like to thank Student Government for sending us to the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) in Wenatchee, Washington, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. This conference included more than 35 educational sessions, 36 performances and showcases, and four marketplace opportunities. Brandon and I represented UAS by attending the conference to see which performers and acts we might want to bring to our campus.

Thursday morning we drove from Seattle to freezing Wenatchee to register for the weekend conference. When we arrived

and people saw that we were from Alaska, their first response was: "Oh, this is probably warm weather to you." Umm, not exactly. Juneau's weather had been in the 40s and here we were in Wenatchee in about 30 degrees! What was that about? The conference was opened with Brian Brushwood's magic (which has been on "The Roseanne Show"), in which he put nails in his eyes and then pulled them out of his mouth. What a way to start the conference!

After the opening dinner, we attended educational conferences in which they further explained the conference. We then had our first mainstage performance. Taylor Mason and crew showed his ventriloquist abilities when he pulled someone from the



Photo by Kim Porter  
Brian Brushwood gave a magical show.

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## Sara Hagen goes to China ...and comes back with a baby

By Alice Albrecht  
Whalesong Staff

After undergoing an extensive background check, criminal, FBI, INS, and months of forms, fees, preparations and lots of red tape, Sara Hagen and her husband, Pete, finally journeyed to China this summer to get their new baby, Annie.

Annie entertained us at a Global Connections meeting recently, while her mother told us how her daughter came to be in their lives.

We are so fortunate to live in a nation where medical care is so readily available. On the other hand, do you know what China's number-one source of birth control is? Abortion...

In China, due to the population explosion, it is against the law for couples to have more than one baby, and a mother must be married and at least 25-years-old in the city or 23-years-old in the country (If you live in a rural area they may be more lax on allowing a second baby, but it varies province to province).

Careful tabs are kept on everyone. If you become pregnant with a second child, you will be forced to undergo an abortion and the government does enforce sterilization in the cities. If you have a second child in secrecy, that child will most likely be afforded no education, as it was born illegally, and all children need paperwork in order to obtain an education. If caught with

a second child, couples can be and are fined the equivalent of a year's wages, along with being fired from their job, shunned by their neighbors and considered a criminal.

Each year, 160,000 babies, mostly girls, are abandoned to orphanages. Why?



Because Chinese people depend on the male child. If a woman has a baby girl there is a chance she will abandon it, in hopes of trying for a male baby later. Consider this. There is no welfare system in China. When you grow old, people rely on their children to provide them with care in their old age.

As a result, boy babies are valued more.

As there is little medicine in China to go around, I can only imagine what a Chinese abortion would be like. Makes you happy to live in America where you can just pop a birth control pill instead.

Well, it's not all bad news. Couples who want to adopt babies travel to China from all over the world. Sara went on to tell us how Chinese babies were non-addictive, as China does not experience the drug or alcohol abuse and addiction that other countries experience, and so some of those babies are finding homes in other countries.

In order to apply for adoption, couples have to be at least 35-years-old, and even single people can apply. Once approved for adoption, the government picks the child for you and sends you photos as you prepare to depart for China.

Hagen told us there were 70 orphanages registered with the government, but that there was likely twice as many not registered.

"It was kind of funny, when we got to the orphanage, we stood there and paid out \$3,000 in cash," Hagen told us. "They say the money goes for the care of the other babies, but you wonder how much money actually goes for [that]."

After seeing sick children and no antibiotics, Sara and her husband ran all over the city looking for pharmacies, filling up two taxis, at their own expense, with

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### Activities from page 1

audience and let them control the puppet while he continued as the voice. Not only did Mason make us laugh and sing with him, he also was the MC for the evening. Up next, often compared to Ani DiFranco (and we thought Alanis Morissette, too), Jules Graves gave us a great folk show with her witty personality and positive spirit. Portland Taiko Ensemble was amazing! As the only taiko group in the Pacific Northwest, the five talented individuals used drums to tell stories and greatly draw the audience's attention. Kickshaw entered with their 1970s outfits and voices. These gentlemen gave us a sample of their a cappella abilities and improvised instruments. I have to admit that I would not have known that it was an improvised electric guitar except that I saw it with my own eyes. These boys are great!

The marketplace gave us time to meet the talented entertainers one-on-one. It was filled with crazy college kids who were fighting to get to their favorite artists and performers. We collected CDs, t-shirts, stickers, posters, and pamphlets about each performer. I wish I had taken an extra bag just for all my souvenirs! At 11:30 p.m., Howie Day, who has played with Jewel, Vertical Horizon, and Sister Hazel, gave us a sample. This 19-year-old, who has been compared to Dave Matthews Band, really rocked the room!

Rise and shine Friday morning and get ready for the big day (again)! I felt

as though I was in school; wake up early and head for the education sessions. I attended "Igniting a New Century: Capitalizing on Gender Differ-

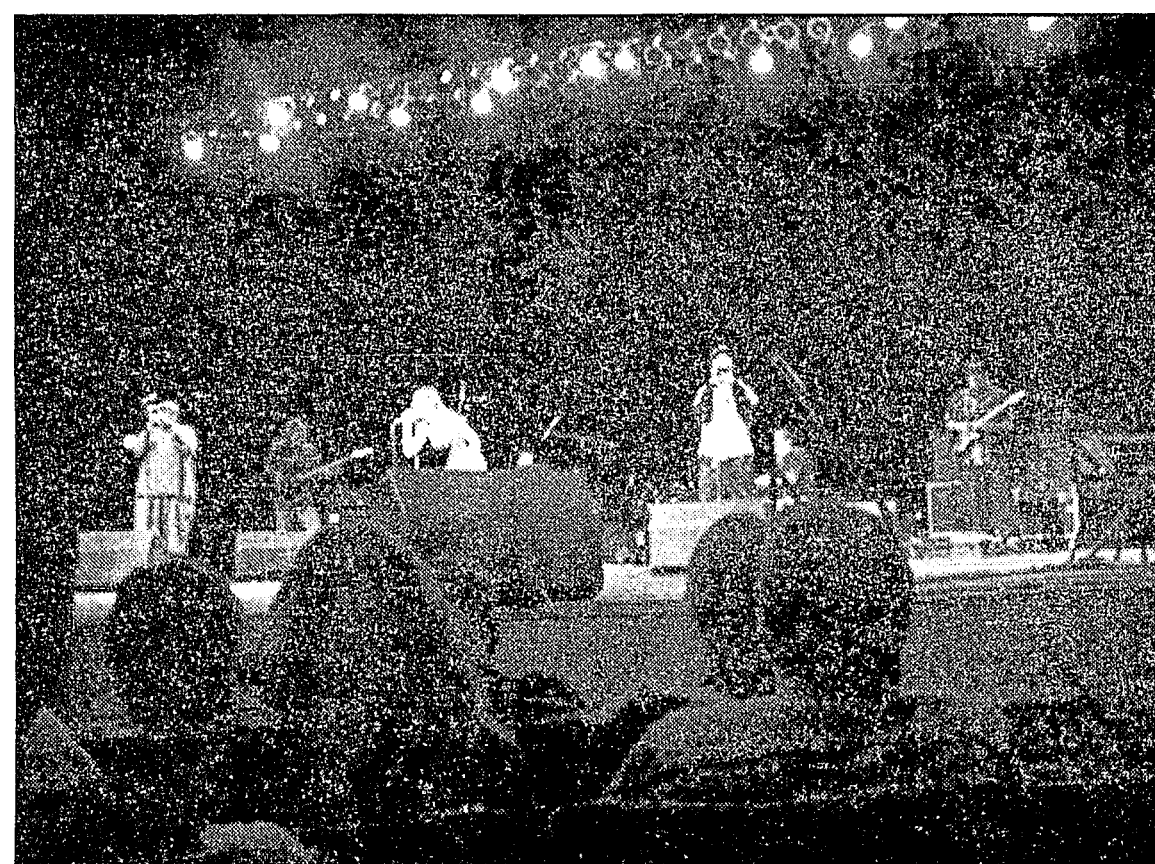


Photo by Kim Porter

LP Outsiders perform a smash concert at the Activities Conference.

ences," lectured by Darren L. Cecil of the University of San Diego. He gave the audience great example of how men and women view the world differently. One of his stressed points: be aware that women always ask Who are we? Do you like me? What do we share? while men ask Who am I? Who are you and what is your status? Do you respect me? So men and women, be sure that you understand there is a difference in how the two genders look at the world and those around them.

Our gals from Two Thin opened goodies for everyone. More stuff for us to bring home! Troy Thirdgill opened the comedy showcase. He has previously guest-starred on "Beverly Hills 90210," "Martin," and "In Living Color." As one of the most popular comedians on college campuses, he had all of us falling out of our chairs. He is a guaranteed laugh for the entire audience! Michael Loftus gave us a side ache as well. Using his accent and body movements, he was sure to keep the crowd giggling during his show.

The mainstage showcase of the evening was a huge hit with the LP Outsiders' performance. These seven individuals from St. Louis, Mo., who have played with Cherry Poppin' Daddies, 98 Degrees, and The Atomic Fireballs, had the whole

audience out of their seats and dancing. Taylor Mali also had the attention of the audience with his slam poetry. He uses the mistakes of his students to make the crowd laugh and enjoy his show; his "Spellcheck" poem resulted in a standing ovation. After a long day, we found ourselves hungry (again) and at Shari's for breakfast and coffee at 1:00 a.m. that evening.

Another early morning Saturday...I began my day with "Keeping the Job Fresh and Fun," lectured by Duncan Stevenson of Pierce College and Darcy DeTienne of Columbia Basin College. They gave us the "warning signs of stress" and talked to us about ways to manage our workloads, balance our lives, and remain sane. I think we could all benefit from such a seminar. The two important things to remember, though they are difficult, are: don't be afraid

to say no and learn to ask for help. Brandon and I then attended "Pack the House: 101 Secrets of Event Promotion," by Bonnie Sims of C.J. Johnson/Brian Brushwood Entertainment. They gave up some tips on how to encourage people to attend the events.

I have been working for activities for about 2 years now, and I want to know something: Why don't people attend the activities? Do you all realize that YOUR money is paying for all the events that we bring to UAS? And it is students such as Brandon and myself who help decide which events we want to bring. Your student government fee also paid for our trip to Wenatchee to see these performers. So please, trust our judgment, take advantage of the SAC (your 100 dollars per semester is paying for that as well!), and attend the events!!! There is a calendar in the cafeteria that is updated every month with all the events, as well as printed calendars for the month. Pay attention and you might find something that you like.

As you may have noticed, there are gaps in my schedule and I have left out some descriptions of performers. Brandon and I discussed the conference and voted yes, no, or maybe on many of the entertainers. I decided not to describe those that we felt strongly against bringing to UAS. I would like people to be interested in those that we feel UAS would really enjoy. If you have comments or questions about this conference, or would like to get more information about one of the above performers, feel free to contact me, Kim Porter, at 465-1298, or jsklp@uas.alaska.edu.

## Student presents faculty awards

By Vika Savalei  
Whalesong Contributor

I barely remember my first semesters at UAS. Just another dazed and confused first-year student, I was even more lost than others since, coming from a foreign country, I did not speak very good English. Five years later, I

grammar glasses and believe that commas are our friends, thanks to my English 110 teacher Jo Devine. Jo, you made it fun (and yes, I know it's a vague pronoun). If you want learn how to think fondly of prepositions, take a class from this lady. In

**"Your classes made me see the world differently - thank you."**

**-Vika**

find myself in graduate school at Western Washington University, reflecting just how much of my present success and confidence

fact, the English department is just full of good folks. Judy Andree stretched my limits by making me write poetry and even try acting. I quickly exhausted my whining potential having come across her calm and firm, "You will do it." So for a whole two minutes...I was King Lear. It wasn't too bad, and it was FUN. (My poems weren't too bad either, but you ain't reading them). What was all the fuss about, I ask myself now that I have to "act" every day in front of my math class. But hey, I was prepared.

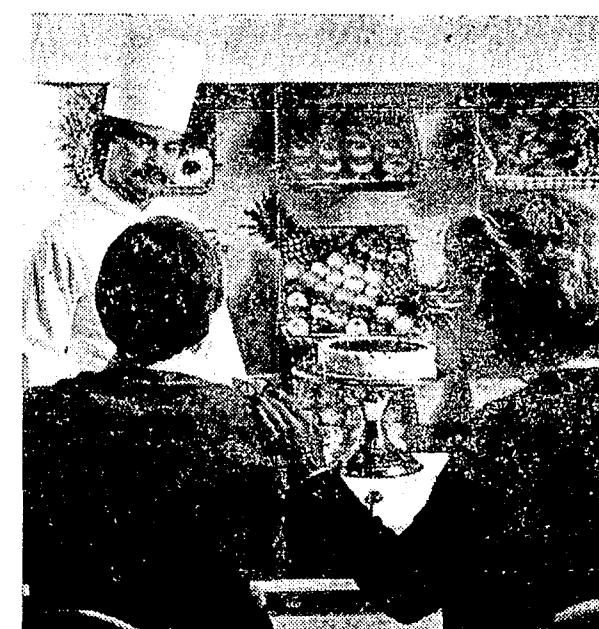
And another English prof, Don Cecil, actually made me believe I could be a writer. I'll never forget his reaction to a paper of mine that I brought to him for review. He read it, jumped off his chair, and, running out the door, said, "I'll be right back, I'll just go Xerox this for my file." Ever had a prof say to you they want to *keep one of your papers*? The effect was incredible. And, victim of his own excitement about student writing, Don has his office overflowing with student essays. But if you ask him he'll tell you he loves it. He'll also tell you that a good prof will read student writing "not for what it is, but for what it can become." Of course, he's quoting somebody (as he always is), but he really does live this one. So if you need some inspiration (or some good quotes), take a class from Don.

Dr. Dean Webb, who claimed consistently that "the internal consistencies of mathematics are just wonderful," helped me stay excited about upper-division math. His classes made me laugh and his tests made me cry, but nothing makes you appreciate the challenge more than feeling prepared for graduate school. So far it's been a piece of cake.

Before I met Ginny Mulle, I didn't even know what sociology was. Everything I ever heard them sociologists say didn't apply to me, so they were wrong and that was the end of the story. Now I can't think of any issue without considering the "big picture." I'm continuously in awe of Dr. Mulle's expertise and her passion for sociology, as well as her willingness to

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## Culinary Arts & Hospitality



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# Preview

**Wednesday, 24** See "one of this [last] fall's most anticipated films!" *Girlfight*, a big winner at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival, is being shown as part of the Film Festival at JDHS auditorium. Tix are at-the-door only, \$3 for UAS, and the show starts at 7 p.m.

**Friday, 26** — Head down to the SAC for a pool tournament. A great way to reward yourself for all your early-semester studying!!

**Also Friday** — International Student Exchange applications are due!! See Elizabeth Schelle in Mourant 107 today!

**Sunday, 28**— As if you didn't already have it marked on all your calendars: **SUPERBOWL!!!** If you don't have a tv, hang out with other under-privileged students at the SAC Superbowl party.

**Monday, 29**— Carolyn Servid, author of *Of Landscape and Longing*, will be giving a reading at The Back Room at 7 p.m. Sponsored by JAHC, UAS English Dept., and more. The reading is \$3 for students.

**Friday, 2** — Looking for something to do? Take in a movie on the big screen for much cheaper at the SAC Movie Night, 7 p.m. Keep your eye out for more movie info.

**Feb. 6 & 7** — **USUAS-JC Student Government Elections!** Keep up on all the candidate information!

**Coming Soon!** The Whalesong online! Stay tuned...

**Making plans?** Let us know where you are heading for spring break: [jywhale@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jywhale@uas.alaska.edu)

## Mother on duty: almost five months ago I became a mother. For better or worse, my life will never be the same

By Amber Timothy  
Whalesong Staff

Reese Randall Timothy was born to me and my husband Shane on Saturday, September 30, after nine months and four days of a watermelon-ish, can't-get-comfortable, back-ache-y pregnancy. Just part of the transition to motherhood, I reconciled myself when I became especially crabby. The pain is what being a mother is all about, I would think—erroneously, I might add. It wasn't until October 1, after my baby was born, that I realized motherhood is about more than just pain ...

My due date was September 26, but much to my dismay, my doctor informed us that first pregnancies usually run over by as much as two weeks. Shane, the meanie, thereafter took to teasing me: "He'll be born October 10th," he'd say, snickering at the basketball in my stomach and the waddle walk that accompanied it.

I never realized the real reason pregnant women waddled before I became pregnant myself. Most people assume the extra weight women tote around in their midsection throws their balance off. That might be part of the reason, but at least for me, I waddled

because I always had to pee. Pregnancy demonstrates that the female body is very adaptable and can move all its inside bits and pieces around to make room for the growing baby—that is, except for the bladder. Everything else sort of shifts out of the way, but the bladder just gets squished by the uterus and the seven pound-plus package in it, explaining why I had to bolt to the bathroom every 10 minutes.

Reese was born four days after my due date. Those were the longest four days of my life. It's cruel enough that women have to submit to sharing their bodies for nine months, but you'd think the kid inside it would be kind enough to come out when he's supposed to.

In all seriousness, though, I loved being pregnant (most of the time, anyway—just not at nights when I had to wedge a pillow between my knees to lessen the spine-crunching backache. Or the times when I was awakened at 3 a.m. by hiccups emanating from the little guy in my belly. Or when I cried when I reached my third month and had to pack away my too-tight jeans. Or the time ...). My coworker described my state as "always having a best friend around to talk to." She was right. I liked feeling the kicks and jolts in my tummy and knowing my baby was saying hello, in the only way


he could. I loved watching my abdomen grow and wondering what was contained inside. What would he look like? What if he inherited my ugly toes? What if he didn't have toes? Would he be a good son? More importantly, would I be a good mom? Throughout my pregnancy, I thought back to the day in January when I bought a home-pregnancy kit and informed Shane our family was going to be increasing soon. Over the next nine months, I wondered if we had done the right thing by starting a family. We both had a lot of school left, we were too young, too poor, too inexperienced. There were plenty of reasons why this wasn't a reasonable thing to do.

But life has taught me that many times the right thing to do isn't the same as the reasonable thing to do, that sometimes you just have to block out other people's opinions and go with what your heart tells you. Getting engaged after having known each other for

six months and getting married two months later was—to most people—nut-brained, completely crazy, and poorly thought-out. But Shane and I did it, because we knew it was right. And having a baby, though we were young and poor and had only been married eight months, was the right thing, too.

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*Watch for our Special Valentine's Edition  
Coming out February 13th!*



It's not too early to start thinking about a few love lines to dedicate to that special someone. Especially if that someone doesn't know you're interested. What better way to spread the word than in a "Love Note" printed in the WHALESONG?

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To place a Love Note contact Marla at 465-6434 or [jywhale@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jywhale@uas.alaska.edu) or stop by the office in the Mourant building room 102.

## Swedish exchange students paint a pretty picture

By Alice Albrecht  
Whalesong Staff

Gabriel Klefbom and Fredrik Pettersson from Lulea, Sweden presented information to the Global Connections Club on Friday, October 6th.

Klefbom reported that Sweden's climate is actually pretty nice; because of the Gulf Stream, their average winter temperature is a balmy 18 degrees F in the winter and 60 F in the summer.

"In Sweden we don't have ethnic problems," Klefbom reported that like Alaska Natives, Sweden has their Natives, the Laplanders, and there are many adoptions from Sri Lanka and India.

The city of Lulea has a population of 78,000 and 11,300 students are currently enrolled at the University.

Pettersson reports, "Most of the students are 19-26. We have approximately 200 foreign exchange students this year, from all over the world."

In Lulea most classes are taught in English. "All of the text books are in English and if we have an English-speaking student in any class, the whole class is taught in English," Klefbom reported.

Prior to the beginning of the school year,

the school kicks off with a two-week party/celebration called, appropriately, the *Kick-Off*, and from their smiles, we could tell that the Swedes did in fact ... *party hardy!*

The University offers all sorts of activities for the students, including concerts, ski trips to Norway, snowmobiling, skiing and whale watching, along with intramural sports. In the summer, a lot of Swedes have cabins in the archipelagoes and even in the winter, when the water freezes, the cabins are still accessible by snowmobile.

"In Sweden we 'air hitchhike.' We can fly anywhere in the country for \$20.00 on standby," Pettersson reported on what to do between breaks.

Sweden has a 51% tax which covers medical, dental and child care. Sweden also allows anyone to attend school for free, including universities. Students pay an average of \$200 per month for rent and student housing is modern, meeting a

high standard. Photos of the school were quite impressive. Pettersson reported that for \$700 a month a student could get by quite well.

Currently there are openings for students interested in attending school in Lulea, tuition-free, as well as similar deals in other countries. See Elizabeth Schelle for information on student exchanges.

Global Connections meets every Friday from 12:30 to 1:30 in the Mourant Student Lounge. Each week a different speaker shares their culture with the rest of us. Come by and see us. I started out covering the first event for an article but now I'm hooked!

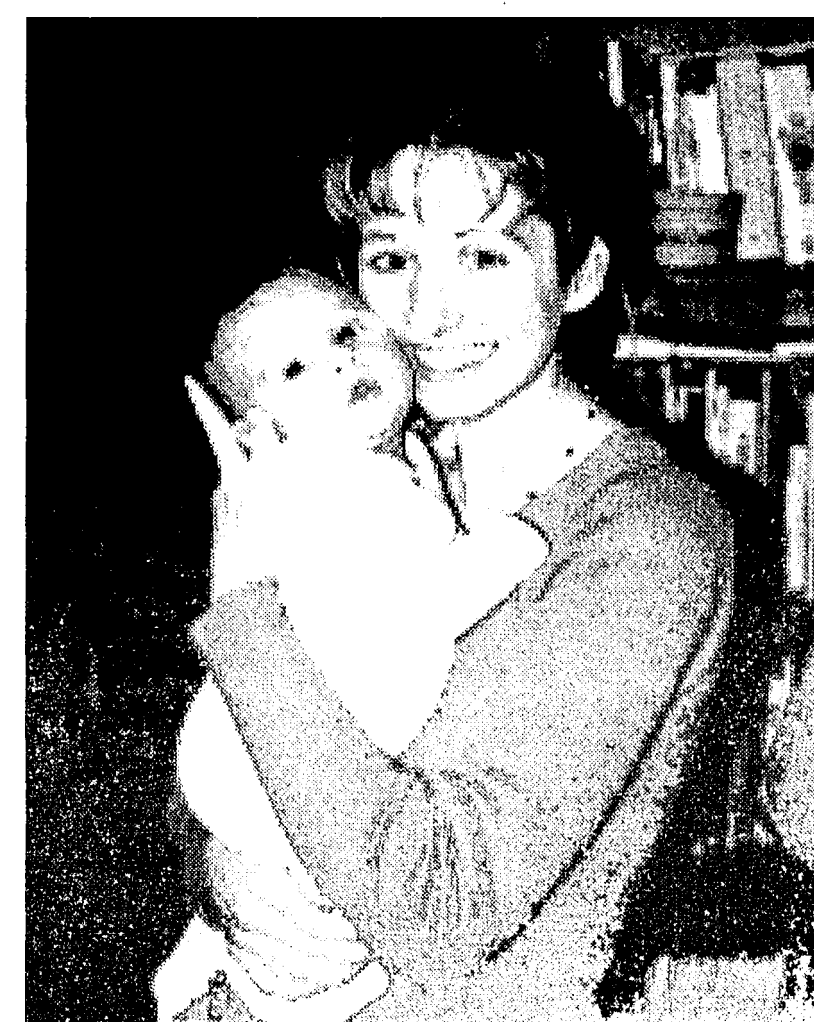
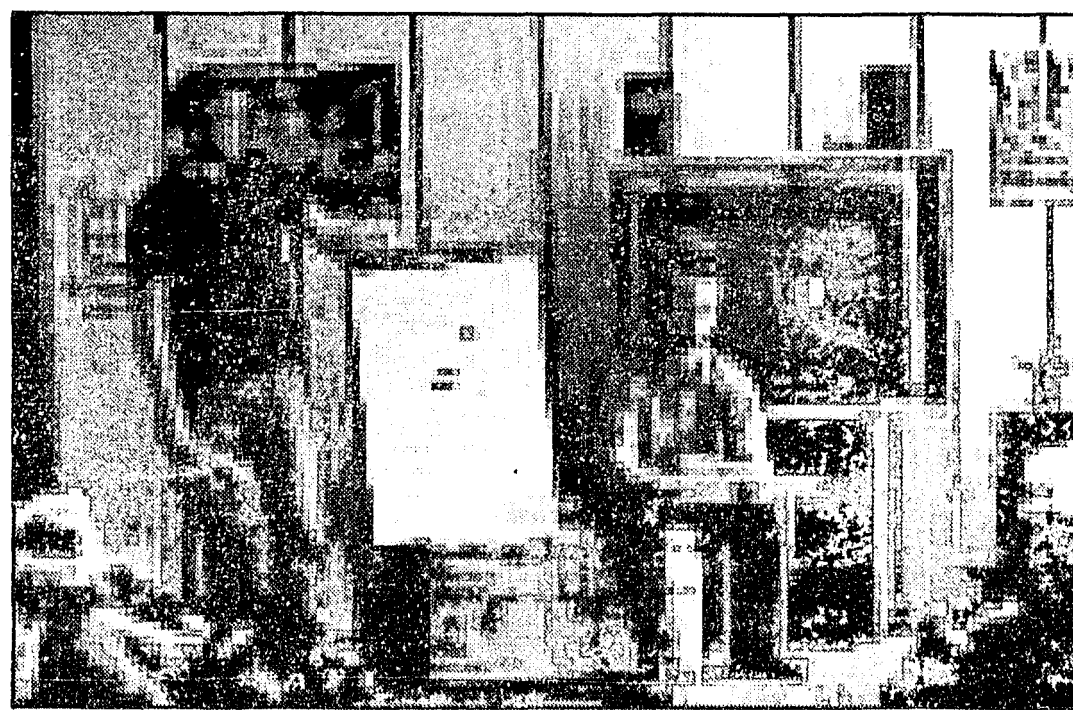


Photo by Shane Timothy  
New mom, Amber, holds her baby, Reese.

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**Awards from page 3**

discuss it with anyone who's interested. Thank you for satisfying my curiosity by engaging in endless email conversations until I could argue no more. And thank you for introducing me to James Baldwin, a most incredible writer and sociologist, whom, in spite of some initial stubbornness, I have learned to appreciate as much as you do. Your classes made me see the world differently—thank you.

Dr. Robin Walz's history classes made me wonder if I should try being a teacher. The most incredible thing about his teaching style is that he manages to remove his presence from the classroom almost entirely, creating the illusion that in fact we learn without his help, in the tradition of best "process" teachers. If he lectured, the lectures were so clear and objective you would never suspect any bias on the part of the lecturer; if he engaged us in a group discussion, his tact and consideration for others' opinions made us feel as if we were being interviewed for television instead of stuck in a classroom. During the U.S. attack on Yugoslavia, I went to a forum

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**A last note from Lola**

**D**o you know how many times I have been called freak, weirdo, and abnormal? Too many to count. It was a bit tough in the beginning, but I now take comments like

I was the one who was organizing family Christmas pageants at age 5, making my uncle wear a crazy hat and sing Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer with me. It continued through kindergarten, when my parents were called because I was singing "dirty" songs for show and tell, and organizing the toys alphabetically on the shelves so they were easier to access. I was not a normal child. In junior high I struggled between learning how to play the flute, and learning how to be a better kisser; I was a band geek with lip-gloss!

I played with Barbies (but not the normal way). These Barbies were big game hunters, and dead people I buried in our back yard. I accidentally knocked my cousin out by slamming him into a brick wall while he was laying in a hammock (oops). When he wouldn't wake up I convinced my sister to help me drag him to the bushes (I thought he was dead) because I did not want to get in trouble. I would have gotten away with it too if sis hadn't told on me. In high school I liked weird things like my pet snake, and scaring my friends with the dead animals that my mom kept in the freezer (don't ask)! People liked me because I amused them. They kept me around because I made them laugh. Often I think this is still the case. But I don't mind, I enjoy the lime-light. Who am I kidding, I am addicted to it.

I am sure most of you can tell that if I am not the center of attention, I make sure to do or say something that will get me noticed. Recently someone said I was acting like a 5-year-old (yea that was you Henry). I guess at times it's true, but let's face it...I should realize that not everyone has big, thick, tough, alligator skin like mine. So go on and make fun of me, but leave everyone else alone. I tend to make fun of myself before anyone else can; it's my protection mode. I have become quite good at the Lola put-downs...ask me sometime, I could write a book about the "Misfortunes of Being Abnormal". So what if we don't look like you, or act like you, or smell like you (just kiddin)...I

*continued next page*

**Mom from page 5**

I've had to remind myself of that at times since Reese has switched from the inside world to the outside. Being a mom definitely isn't for the faint of heart. The hour-long crying sessions, the poop diapers that leak onto him and onto me, the baby who wants to eat when it's time to sleep and sleep when it's time to eat, it can get frustrating and tiring. But the other half of the job description includes getting to see his first real smiles, laughing when he tries to stuff his entire hand in his mouth, and watching him sleep while trying to fathom how Shane and I could have made something so perfect when we ourselves are so imperfect. Yes, this is what being a mom is all about, and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

**Awards from page 6**

where Dr. Walz was a speaker. I remember feeling strange while listening to him talk about the Kosovo problem, as if something wasn't quite right. I realized later that I'd never heard Dr. Walz passionately defend a point of view before. He always let us discover our arguments and passions on our own, an extremely difficult thing to do (as I'm finding out) when you're given a stage and an audience.

And when it comes to my psychology professor, Dr. Shelley Theno, I have no words at all. I use the Yerkes-Dodson law to teach parabolas to my math class, and Sniffy, the computer rat we had to train in Psy of Learning, is running mazes in 2 seconds on my final exam. Thank you for teaching psychology with such rare passion that you made everything from women's studies to statistical methods to classical conditioning equally fascinating (hey, no social psychologists will read this). And your courage to stand up for what you believe and against every unfairness that you see has inspired me to be braver and more assertive and to find (and to fight for) my own place in the world. You're an incredible influence on all the young women who meet you, as they learn from you how to find their own paths and passions and how to insist that the world notice them. Thank you for battling off my endless questions with such patience, for challenging me endlessly, for believing in me, and, hey, for cheering at my graduation.

**Lola from page 6**

shower). Some differences are by choice, some are not. Some craziness is accidental, some is not. There is not any reason for someone to be cruel about those who are not like them. But you know what...I say bring it on, I will have a comeback for whatever you choose to call me, after all...I am not normal.

I am not knocking those who like to be normal, we (the abnormal) need you to keep us sane, to make sure we take our medication (HAHA), and eat and sleep. We need you to remind us when we go over the top and especially we need you when our own crazy life finally catches up with us. We need help sometimes to take a little time and realize that "NO" is a word in the English language, and sometimes have to do the deciding for us. I have some friends that have helped my insanity with their sanity. I need a shoulder every now and then (yes even the superstar has her bad days), and for that I am thankful (you all know who you are).

I will miss being crazy with you all next semester, I must move on to share my insanity with the Legislature. (I am sure they can teach me a thing or two). I got a little sad yesterday as I walked through the cafeteria down through the computer center and to the Soboleff building being greeted with smiles and hugs and "happiness-to-see-me" looks the whole way. I love that feeling (even if it does take me 20 minutes to get about 50 feet). I will miss writing my craziness for you, my thoughts about Juneau and my life. Occasionally I would try to just sit quietly and read or study, all the while I was truly hoping I would have someone come over and "bug" me. I graduate in May after years of working on this degree, and am confident that my abnormal life will lead me into one crazy adventure after another, for if I was normal I would be bored. I don't want to ever be bored...I don't want to ever be normal. Thank you all for reading these ramblings, and letting me share my NORMAL, yea baby that's me!

**Love Notes**  
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*They'll be so thrilled  
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the Valentine Edition  
on February 13th.*

**Interested? Contact the  
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by room 102 downstairs in the  
mourant building.**

No excellent professors will make it fun for you if you are just trying to "pass." You have to love learning, but if you do, you will love UAS. Two other incredible teachers, Chris Weaver and Vesna Kilibarda, are not here anymore, but I'd like to thank them anyway. So I hope you let your favorite teachers know that you appreciate them. Teaching this quarter for the first time myself...I tell you, it's a good thing to hear!

# Give your brain a break.

## Feed it \$2.99<sup>plus tax</sup> Combo Meals.

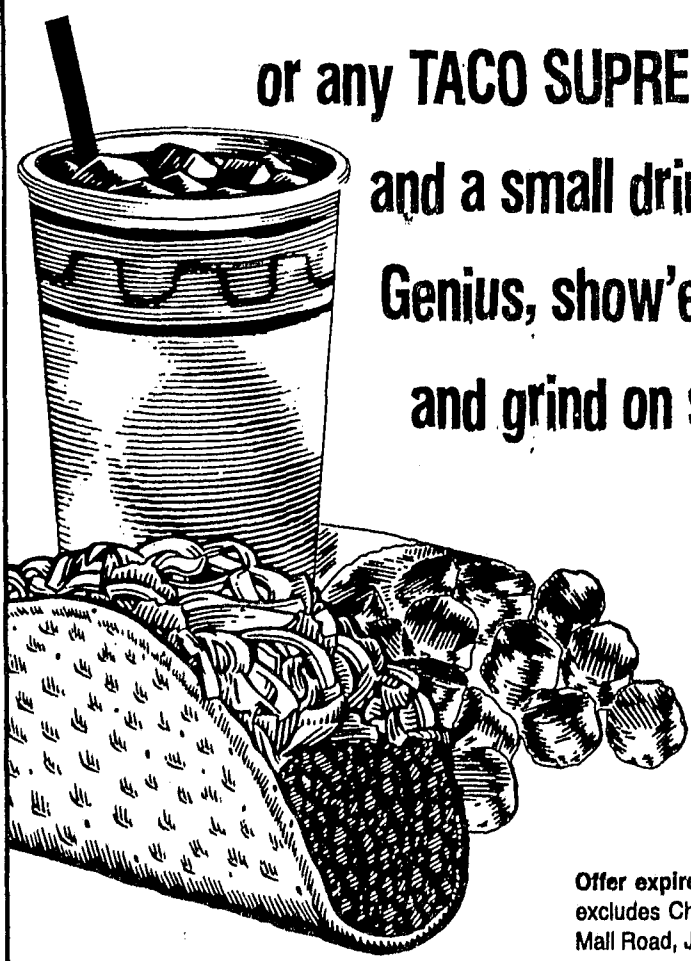
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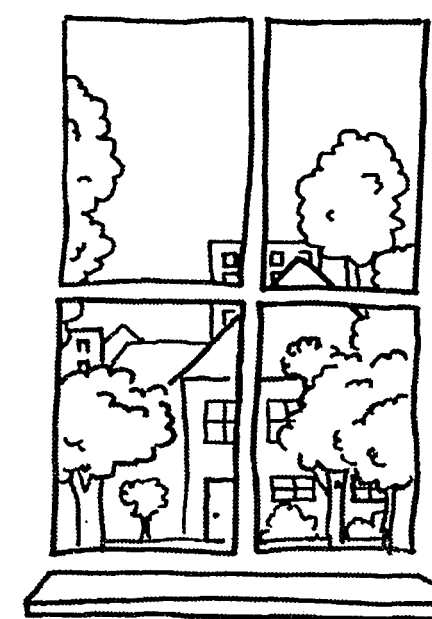
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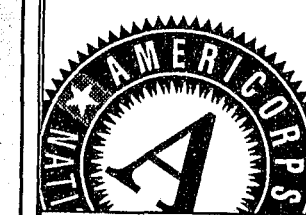
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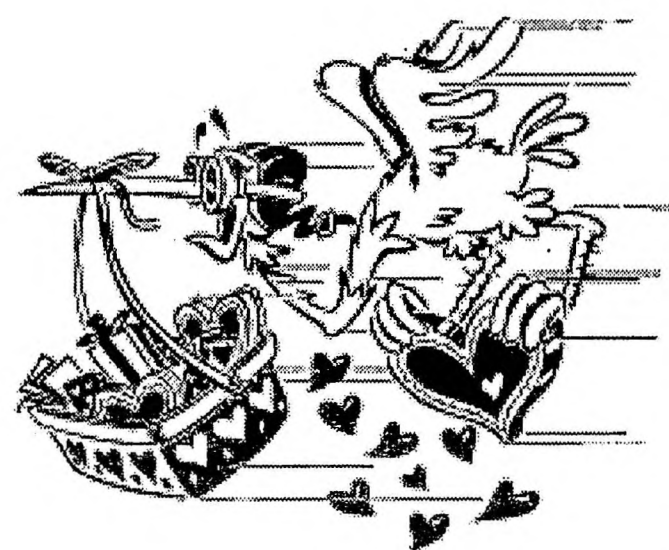
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# Coming Soon! Watch for it!

## The Whalesong's Special Valentines Edition in stands February 13th!

### Love Is In The Air



Don't be one of those last minute or even worse LATE Valentines! See ads inside this and the next edition for a great idea on what to get your Valentine.

## Ask Dr. Love & Deb Auchery...

**Dear Doc and Deb**

*Every time I go to the bars my friends mess up my game. What can I do to get around them?*

**Doc says:**

You could not go with your friends to the bars but what's the fun in that? Next time you're at the bars putting the moves on, cut them short and get a phone number before your friends can screw it up.

**Deb says:**

Quit playing games.

**Dear Doc and Deb:**

*My girlfriend has had a lot more partners than I have. This bothers me, what should I do?*

**Doc says:**

It's a personal thing, if you feel uncomfortable you need to address these feelings. If you don't deal with your problems it will bring your relationship down. However, people have sex and you better learn to except that.

**Deb says:**

First you need to discover what it is exactly that bothers you and why. Obviously, since you know she has had more partners than you that indicates that you talked about it so, at least you are communicating. Remember that you can't change anybody unless they want to change, you should never go into a relationship thinking that you can. Also, when you get into a responsible relationship you have to be willing to accept EVERYTHING about your partner or it will never work. Besides, the past is history and it won't be altered. The way I see it you have two options: 1-go out and expand the number of partners you have had (which I don't think your girlfriend will approve of unless you break up) and/or 2-GET OVER IT!

**Dear Doc and Deb:**

*How can I let my crush know I'm interested?*

**Doc says:**

Tell them. If you don't want to be that blunt about it get to know the person and give them subtle hints that you're interested if they respond you can take it from there.

**Deb says:**

Send them flowers; find a poem that reminds you of that person and dedicate it to them; ask them to go for walks and tell them something personal about yourself; spend time with them; tell them you think about them a lot; take them out to dinner; make a bag lunch for two and share it; make them feel special. Come on people, think about it, you are capable of being creative and you are capable of being romantic try it!

**Dear Doc and Deb:**

*How can I keep my fantasies from becoming reality?*

**Doc says:**

You must decide now what you want. If you know your fantasy is wrong you better make a commitment to yourself that you won't make your fantasy come true. You will be a better person because of it.

**Deb says:**

Why don't you want your fantasies to become reality? The real trick is just finding the person or people that have the same sort of fantasies and would be willing to act them out with you. You should really sit down and think about your fantasies, what makes them so bad that you would not want them to become reality? Keep in mind that there is a time and place for everything. If you have a good sense of what YOU think (not society) is right and wrong than let that be your guide. If on the other hand your fantasies involve hurting other people and/or yourself, I would strongly suggest seeking out professional assistance to help you curb your desires.